

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 04128 300829Z

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ACTION NEA-10

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P 300530Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6336

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 4128

FOR NEA/INS FOR FISCHER FROM OBEE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, NP
SUBJECT: AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL EVEREST EXPEDITION

REF: STATE 241168

1. MONEY SITUATION ALMOST EQUALLY MURKY HERE. CHENEY
HAS CASHED ALL TEN CHECKS.

2. TALKED TO EMMETT WHO IS AT BASE CAMP ON RADIO
YESTERDAY. WE REVIEWED HIS RECOLLECTION OF EXPEDITION
DEPOSITS IN YOUR ACCOUNT WITH WHAT PAM HAS ON RECORD AND
COULD FIND NO MAJOR DISCREPANCIES. FYI: YOUR AUGUST 5TH
BANK STATEMENT SHOWS \$34,000 FROM ABEE DEPOSITED LATE JULY.
AN ADDITIONAL \$8,000 OF ABEE MONEY AS DEPOSITED IN TWO
INSTALLMENTS AUGUST 2 AND 3. LIKEWISE CBS DEPOSITED TWO
INSTALLMENTS OF \$5,000 EACH ON AUGUST 2 AND 3.

3. THERE ARE TWO POSSIBLE AREAS OF CONFUSION. DAN SAYS
\$10,000 OF ABEE FUNDING WAS TO COME FROM JAKARTA FROM FRANK
MORGAN AND THIS MAY HAVE GONE ASTRAY. YOU CAN DOUBLE CHECK
THIS EITHER WITH DAN'S BANKER BRUCE BRINKMAN, UNION BANK,
WILTSHIRE AND WESTERN BRANCH, LOS ANGELES, OR WITH
DAN'S BUSINESS PARTNER CHRIS ANDERSON, PHONE 213-278-9410.
DAN SAYS ANDERSON COULD ADVANCE YOU MONEY TO COVER DEFICIT
IN YOUR ACCOUNT, BUT HOPES YOU WILL USE THIS ONLY AS A LAST
RESORT.

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PAGE 02 KATHMA 04128 300829Z

4. STATE OF CBS DEPOSITS UNCLEAR HERE BOTH BECAUSE OF LACK

OF COMMUNICATION FROM GOREN AND BECAUSE THEIR PAYMENTS ARE OF TWO TYPES (A) TO THE ABEE FOR FILM RIGHTS AND (B) TO HOOVER PRODUCTIONS FOR DOING THE FILM. DAN SAYS ALL MONEY IN FIRST CATEGORY SHOULD HAVE GONE TO HIS ABEE ACCOUNT, NOT YOURS. HOOVER AND GOREN REQUESTED \$10,000 FROM HOOVER SIDE TO BE PUT IN YOUR ACCOUNT IN EARLY AUGUST AND WE RECEIVED TELEX SAYING THIS HAD BEEN DONE. HOWEVER, IF THIS AMOUNT WAS THE FINAL INSTALLMENT OF THE PAYMENT TO THE ABEE (WHICH DAN THINKS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE) AND THE MONEY REQUESTED BY HOOVER AND GOREN ONLY WENT IN ON SEPTEMBER 17 WE HAVE INDEED BEEN OPERATING ON A MISASSUMPTION. CBS SIDE FURTHER COMPLICATED BY DECISION TO HIRE EXTRA SHERPAS FOR FILM CREW IN NAMCHE FOR WHICH CBS WAS TO PAY \$5,000 AS SOON AS GOREN RETURNED TO NEW YORK. IN OTHER WORDS, WE BELIEVE CBS OBLIGATION FOR HOOVER PRODUCTION SHOULD BE TOTAL \$15,000 AND ALL OF THIS SHOULD BE IN YOUR ACCOUNT. HOWEVER, DESPITE REPEATED TELEXES REQUESTING CONFIRMATION WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM GOREN. URGE YOU CALL GOREN, ATTEMPT TO CLARIFY SITUATION, AND ADVISE ME BY RETURN PRIORITY CABLE.

5. ANOTHER POSSIBLE SOURCE OF ENLIGHTENMENT ON CBS MONEY IS CONSTANCE HOOVER WHO IS NOW BACK IN LOS ANGELES (PHONE 213-255-7847). SHE LEFT HERE SUFFICIENTLY UNHAPPY WITH VAGUENESS OF CBS ARRANGEMENTS THAT SHE SUBSEQUENTLY PUT \$10,000 OF THEIR PERSONAL CAPITAL IN MY ACCOUNT TO PAY OFF FILM CREW AT END OF EXPEDITION. THIS LATTER MONEY SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH ANYTHING CBS HAS PAID ABEE OR HOOVER PRODUCTIONS.
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